(d) whether the price of milk is beyond the reach of most of the people, particularly poor and below poverty line segments;

(e) if so, Government's response thereto and whether Government has any proposal for setting up innovative dairy projects;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps being taken by Government for modernization of dairy units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRYOFAGRICULTURE (SHRI TASUMUDDIN): (a) The production of milk and milk products at National level is by and large sufficient to meet the domestic demand. Since major quantity of milk is handled in unorganized sector, no authentic data on production of milk products in the country is available. State-wise estimates of milk production in last three years are enclosed as Statement-I *(See* below).

(b) and (c) Price of milk has increased in last few years mainly due to increase in the costs of production, procurement, processing and marketing. A list of average prices of milk in various cities in the country is enclosed as Statement-II *(See* below).

(d) to (0 The Government does not have any report of any difficulty faced by poor and below poverty line segments in regard to milk prices. However, Government is regularly monitoring the availability of milk and milk products to ensure availability at reasonable price in the country and takes necessary action as and when situation demands. Further, the Government is implementing various dairy development schemes, including those which provide scope for innovative dairy projects to enhance milk production.

(g) The Government of India supplements efforts of the State Governments to modernize dairy units in the country thorugh the following schemes:

(i) National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.

(ii) Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production.

(iii) Intensive Dairy Development Programme.

(iv) Assistance to Cooperatives.

(v) Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund.

(vi) Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.

Statement-1

Estimate of milk production 2004-05 *to* 2006-07

(000 tonnes)

SI. No.	Name of the State/UTs	2004-05	2005-06	200607
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7257	7624	7939
2	Arunachal Pradesh	48	48	49
3.	Assam	739	747	751
4.	Bihar	4743	5060	5450
5.	Chhattisgarh	831	839	849